bearing on or nutritional status of children. Some of these Schemes/ Programes are as under:

(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme;

(ii) National Nutritional Anaemia Control Perogramme (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(iii) National Prophylaxis Programme against Blindness due to vitamin-A (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(iv) National Iodine Deficiency Control Programme (Ministry of health & Family Welfare);

(v) Reproductive & Child Health Programme (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(vi) National Rural Health Mission (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(vii) Accelerated Rural water Supply Programme & Total Sanitation Campaign (Ministry of Rural Development);

(viii) Poverty Alleviation Programme (Ministry of Rural Development).

(ix) Targeted Public distribution System (Deptt. of Food Consumer Affairs);

(x) A pilot Project in 51 districts to provide free food grains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant & nursing mothers (Ministry of Women & Child Development).

Anaemia and Vitamin-A deficiency in children

2102. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that iron deficiency, anaemia Vitamin-A deficiency are the common ailments among children in India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government are implementing nutrition schemes like ICDS across most of the States in the country; and

(c) what factors, according to Government, contribute to the continued malnourishment among children and the steps being taken to restore the health and nutritional standards in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As per the National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) Technical Report No. 22, ICMR, 2003, the prevalence of mild, moderate and severe anaemia among 1-5 year old children is 23.7%, 41.1% and 2.1% respectively. The same Report has brought out that the prevalence of the signs and symptoms of vitamin. A Deficiency among 1-5 year old children is 0.3% night blindness, 1.8% conjunctival xerosis and 0.8% Bitot Spots.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Malnutrition is a multifaceted problem, the determinants of which vary from food insecurity, female illiteracy, poor access to health-care, safe drinking water, sanitation and poor purchasing power. Early marriages of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the new borns, poor breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices, ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections furhter aggravate the situation.

The Government is seized of the problem and has undertaken several programmes to monitor and improve the health and nutritional status of children. Some of these are as under:

(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) (Ministry of Women & Child Development);

(ii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescant girls and pregnant and nursing mothers (Ministry of Women & Child Development);

(iii) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women & Child Development);

(iv) National Rural Health Mission including Iron and Folic Acid and Vitamin A Supplementation programmes (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(v) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(vi) Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(vii) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) [Department of Elementary Education & Literacy];

(viii) Targetted Public Distribution System (Department of Food & Public Distribution);

(ix) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme/Swajaldhara and Total Sanitation Campaign (Ministry of Rural Development).

Institutes for destitute and neglected children in MP

†2103. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 26 institutes are functioning in Madhya Pradesh for destitute, neglected and criminal children;

(b) whether the number of these institutes is sufficient;

(c) whether Government propose to enhance their number; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) In addition to 18 Observation Homes, 3 Juvenile Homes, 3 Special Homes and 2 After Care Homes functioning under the administrative control of the Directorate of Panchayat & Social Justice Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, 25 homes are also functioning under administrative control of Women and Child Development Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(b), (c) and (d) As per information given by the Madhya Pradesh Government, these institutes are sufficient to meet the present requirements.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.